



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/810,174

03/26/2004

Suchit Kaura

ORCL-2003-139-01

7993

45591

7590

05/12/2008

ORACLE C/O MURABITO, HAO & BARNES LLP  
TWO NORTH MARKET STREET  
THIRD FLOOR  
SAN JOSE, CA 95113

EXAMINER

AHLUWALIA, NAVNEET K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2166

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/12/2008

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/810,174	<b>Applicant(s)</b> KAURA ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> NAVNEET K. AHLUWALIA	<b>Art Unit</b> 2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 February 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This communication is in response to the Amendment filed 02/11/2008.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1 – 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

4. The amendments made to independent claims 1, 8 and 15 are not supported by the written disclosure of "the creation of the particular shared and there on after the creation"

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1 – 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

7. The amendments made to claims 1, 8 and 15 are not supported by the written disclosure, there it is indefinite as to what exactly is being claimed and leave certain ambiguity.

### ***Response to Arguments***

8. Claims 1 – 22 are pending in this Office Action. After a further consideration and a thorough examination of the present application, claims 1 – 22 remain rejected.

9. Applicant's arguments filed with respect to claims 1 – 22 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

*Applicant argues that there is no teaching in Lord of the creation of a particular shared object and then after the point in time of creation designation.*

*In response to Applicant's argument, the Examiner respectfully disagrees and submits that Lord teaches creation of a particular shared object and then after the point in time of creation designation in paragraphs 103 and 142. Furthermore in these cited paragraphs is explained how at the creation of the object properties and attributes are allotted.*

*Claims 2 – 22 recite the same subject matter and for the same reasons as cited above the rejection is maintained.*

Hence, Applicant's arguments do not distinguish the claimed invention over the prior art of record. In light of the foregoing arguments, the 102 rejections are sustained.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

10. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

11. Claims 1 – 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lord et al. ('Lord' herein after) (US 20030028514 A1).

With respect to claim 1,

Lord discloses a method of providing shared objects and node-specific objects in a cluster file system (Figure 3, Lord), said method comprising:

- creating a particular shared object;
- at a point in time after said creation, providing to said particular shared object an attribute that indicates any object created in said particular shared object after said point in time is designated as node-specific while any object existing in said particular shared object prior to said point in time maintains designation as shared (page 6 paragraph 0096, Lord);  
and

- when a node causes a file system operation that is node-specific to be performed by accessing said particular shared object, performing said file system operation in an alternate directory corresponding to said node(page 6 paragraph 0100, Lord), wherein said alternate directory supports a node-specific object wherein any object designated as shared in said particular shared object is available to a plurality of nodes, and wherein any object designated as node-specific in said particular shared object is available solely to a corresponding node of said nodes(paragraphs 70 – 72, Lord).

With respect to claim 2,

Lord discloses the method as recited in claim 1 wherein said particular shared object is a container-type shared object (paragraphs 0035 and 0070, Lord).

With respect to claim 3,

Lord discloses the method as recited in claim 1 wherein said particular shared object is a directory (Figure 7, paragraphs 0070 and 0084, Lord).

With respect to claim 4,

Lord discloses the method as recited in claim 1 wherein said performing said file system operation in said alternate directory includes:

- associating a pointer with said particular shared object (paragraphs 0038, 0135, Lord);
- using said pointer to point to a table having alternate directory information for each node (paragraph 0135, Lord);
- if said alternate directory information for said node indicates that said alternate directory has not been created, creating said alternate directory for said node and updating said table with a location of said alternate directory (paragraphs 103, 123, Lord).

With respect to claim 5,

Lord discloses the method as recited in claim 1 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes creating one of a node-specific file and a node-specific directory (paragraphs 0096 – 0097, Lord).

With respect to claim 6,

Lord discloses the method as recited in claim 5 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes modifying one of said node-specific file and said node-specific directory (paragraph 0101, Lord).

With respect to claim 7,

Lord discloses the method as recited in claim 5 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes deleting one of said node-specific file and said

node-specific directory (paragraphs 0079, 0143, Lord).

With respect to claim 8,

Lord discloses a computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions stored therein for performing a method of providing shared objects and node-specific objects in a cluster file system (Figure 3, Lord), said method comprising:

- creating a particular shared object;
- at a point in time after said creation, providing to said particular shared object an attribute that indicates any object created in said particular shared object after said point in time is designated as node-specific while any object existing in said particular shared object prior to said point in time maintains designation as shared (page 6 paragraph 0096, Lord);  
and
- when a node causes a file system operation that is node-specific to be performed by accessing said particular shared object, performing said file system operation in an alternate directory corresponding to said node, wherein said alternate directory supports a node-specific object (page 6 paragraph 0100, Lord), wherein any object designated as shared in said particular shared object is available to a plurality of nodes, and wherein any object designated as node-specific in said particular shared object is available solely to corresponding node of said nodes (paragraphs 70 – 72, Lord).



With respect to claim 9,

Lord discloses the computer-readable medium as recited in claim 8 wherein said particular shared object is a container-type shared object (paragraphs 0035 and 0070, Lord).

With respect to claim 10,

Lord discloses the computer-readable medium as recited in claim 8 wherein said particular shared object is a directory (Figure 7, paragraphs 0070 and 0084, Lord).

With respect to claim 11,

Lord discloses the computer-readable medium as recited in claim 8 wherein said performing said file system operation in said alternate directory includes:

- associating a pointer with said particular shared object (paragraphs 0038, 0135, Lord);
- using said pointer to point to a table having alternate directory information for each node (paragraph 0135, Lord);
- if said alternate directory information for said node indicates that said alternate directory has not been created, creating said alternate directory for said node and updating said table with a location of said alternate directory (paragraphs 103, 123, Lord).

With respect to claim 12,

Lord discloses the computer-readable medium as recited in claim 8 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes creating one of a node-specific file and a node-specific directory (paragraphs 0096 – 0097, Lord).

With respect to claim 13,

Lord discloses the computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes modifying one of said node-specific file and said node-specific directory (paragraph 0101, Lord).

With respect to claim 14,

Lord discloses the computer-readable medium as recited in claim 12 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes deleting one of said node-specific file and said node-specific directory (paragraphs 0079, 0143, Lord).

With respect to claim 15,

Lord discloses a system comprising:

- a cluster having a plurality of nodes, a mass storage device coupled to said cluster (Figure 3, Lord); and
- a cluster file system configured to create a shared object and to automatically support for node-specific objects in said shared object, wherein at a point in time after creation of said creation of said shared

object, said cluster file system provides to said shared object an attribute that indicates any object created in said shared object after said point in time is designated as node specific while any object existing in said shared object prior to said point in time maintains designation as shared (paragraphs 96 and 100, Lord), wherein any object designated as shared in said shared object is available to said nodes, and wherein any object designated as node-specific in said shared object is available solely to a corresponding node of said nodes (paragraphs 70 – 72, Lord).

With respect to claim 16,

Lord discloses the system as recited in claim wherein when one of said nodes causes a file system operation that is node-specific to be performed by accessing said shared object, said cluster file system performs said file system operation in an alternate directory corresponding to said node, wherein said alternate directory supports a node-specific object (paragraphs 96 and 100, Lord).

With respect to claim 17,

Lord discloses the system as recited in claim 16 wherein said cluster file system associates a pointer with said particular shared object (paragraphs 0038, 0135, Lord), wherein said cluster file system uses said pointer to point to a table having alternate directory information for each node (paragraph 0135, Lord), and wherein if said alternate directory information for said node indicates that said alternate directory has

Art Unit: 2166

not been created, said cluster file system creates said alternate directory for said node and updates said table with a location of said alternate directory (paragraphs 103, 123, Lord).

With respect to claim 18,

Lord discloses the system as recited in claim 16 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes creating one of a node-specific file and a node-specific directory (paragraphs 0096 – 0097, Lord).

With respect to claim 19,

Lord discloses the system as recited in claim 18 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes modifying one of said node-specific file and said node-specific directory (paragraph 0101, Lord).

With respect to claim 20,

Lord discloses the system as recited in claim 18 wherein said file system operation that is node-specific includes deleting one of said node-specific file and said node-specific directory (paragraphs 0079, 0143, Lord).

With respect to claim 21,

Lord discloses the system as recited in claim 15 wherein said particular shared object is a container-type shared object (paragraphs 0035 and 0070, Lord).

With respect to claim 22,

Lord discloses the system as recited in claim 15 wherein said particular shared object is a directory (Figure 7, paragraphs 0070 and 0084, Lord).

***Conclusion***

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Navneet K. Ahluwalia whose telephone number is 571-272-5636.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alam T. Hosain can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Navneet K. Ahluwalia/  
Examiner, Art Unit 2166

Dated: 05/05/2008

/Hosain T Alam/  
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2166

<div>Application Number</div> <div></div>	Application/Control No.	Applicant(s)/Patent under Reexamination	
	10/810,174	KAURA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	NAVNEET K. AHLUWALIA	2166	